

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

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RODNEY NEAL,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	Civ. No. 22-5574 (KM) (JBC)
	:	
v.	:	<b>MEMORANDUM AND ORDER</b>
OSCAR AVILES, et al.,	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	
	:	

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Plaintiff Rodney Neal, a pretrial detainee at Hudson County Correctional Facility (“HCCF”), seeks to commence a civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and to proceed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”). DE 1-1. For the reasons below, the Court denies Neal’s IFP application without prejudice and administratively terminates this action.

The Prison Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the “PLRA”) established certain financial requirements for prisoners attempting to bring a civil action IFP. Under the PLRA, a prisoner seeking to commence a civil action without prepayment of the filing fee must submit an affidavit, including a statement of all assets, establishing that the prisoner is unable to pay the fee. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1). The prisoner must also submit a certified copy of his inmate trust fund account statement for the six-month period immediately preceding the filing of the complaint. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2). The prisoner must obtain this statement from the appropriate official of each prison at which he is or was confined. *Id.*

Here, Neal has not provided account statements for the six months preceding the date he filed his complaint, nor did he provide the Court with details regarding his efforts, if any, to obtain account statements for the relevant six-month period. DE 1-1.<sup>1</sup> Accordingly, the Court

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<sup>1</sup> According to the information on Neal’s IFP application, he has been detained at HCCF since May 19, 2021. DE 1-1 at 2.

denies Neal's IFP application without prejudice. If Neal provides the Court with certified account statements covering the six-month period prior to the date he filed his complaint, he may request that the Court reopen the case.

Whether the matter proceeds IFP or Neal pays the filing fee, however, the Court must still screen Neal's complaint and dismiss the case if it finds that the action is: (1) frivolous or malicious; (2) fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted; or (3) seeks monetary relief against a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. §§ 1915A & 1915(e)(2)(B). If the Court dismisses the case for any of these reasons, the filing fee is not refunded. If Neal has, on three or more prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal in a court that was dismissed on any of the grounds listed above, he cannot bring another action IFP unless he is in imminent danger of serious physical injury. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

Accordingly, IT IS on this 3rd day of October, 2022,

**ORDERED** that the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* is **DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Court shall **ADMINISTRATIVELY TERMINATE** this case, without filing the complaint or assessing a filing fee. This is not a "dismissal" for purposes of the statute of limitations. If the case is reopened, it is not subject to the statute of limitations time bar if it was originally filed timely; and it is further

**ORDERED** that if Neal wishes to reopen this case, he shall notify the Court, in writing addressed to the Clerk of the Court, Martin Luther King Building & U.S. Courthouse, 50 Walnut Street Room 4015, Newark, NJ 07101, within 45 days of the date of entry of this Order; Neal's writing shall include either (1) a complete, signed IFP application, including a legible certified six-month prison account statement, or (2) the \$402 fee; and it is further

**ORDERED** that upon receipt of a writing from Neal stating that he wishes to reopen this case, and either a complete IFP application or payment of the filing and administrative fees within the time allotted by this Court, the Clerk of the Court will be directed to reopen this case; and it is finally

**ORDERED** that the Clerk of the Court shall serve a copy of this Order and a blank IFP application (DNJ-Pro Se-007-A-(Rev.12/2020)) upon Neal by regular U.S. mail.

/s/ Kevin McNulty

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KEVIN MCNULTY  
United States District Judge